

FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 2571 – SB 2650

May 1, 2008

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (017104): Deletes the original bill in its entirety. Replaces the current definition of “AMA Guides” as such definition applies to workers’ compensation. Current law states that such guide is the most recent edition of the *American Medical Association Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment*. This definition is replaced with language requiring the use of the 6th edition of the guide until a new edition is designated by the General Assembly or the edition in effect on the date the employee is injured. If a new edition of the guide is released, the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWFD) is directed to conduct an evaluation of the new edition and report the findings and recommendations of the evaluation to the General Assembly within six months.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

(CORRECTED)

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$100,000

Increase Local Expenditures* - Exceeds \$100,000

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

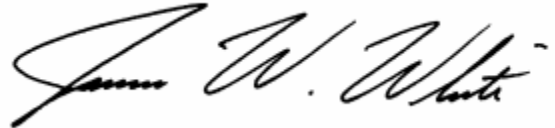
Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- Any increase in state expenditures for LWFD to conduct a cost analysis study or provide the required report to the General Assembly is estimated to be not significant and can be handled utilizing existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- The 6th edition of the AMA guide is the guide in use under current law.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "White" clearly legible, and "W." in the middle.

James W. White, Executive Director

/cce